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under PCE
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1. I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: January 3, 2007

Signature: *Cindy Guido*

(Cindy Guido)

Docket No.: 559552000100
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Tae-ahn JAHNG

Application No.: 10/728,566

Filed: December 5, 2003

For: A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
FLEXIBLE FIXATION OF A SPINE

Confirmation No.: 8922

Art Unit: 3733

Examiner: M.C. Hoffman

**AFTER FINAL-
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is in response to the final Office Action dated December 7, 2006, for which a response is due on March 7, 2007. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

sd-350293